Completion of Neora Drinking Water Project

6339. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATON be pleased to state:

(a) what was the initial budget estimate for Neora Drinking Water Project and when it was started;

(b) what is its present position and what amount of money has been released and spent as on the date on this project;

(c) how long will it take for its completion;

(d) what will its revised estimate; and

(e) what will be the capacity of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The Neora Drinking Water Project was originally sanctioned in 1985 at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.45 crores. Due to the extraordinary situation then prevailing in the hill areas the execution of the work was actually started by the State Government in November, 1988. The delay resulted in escalation of cost and fresh sanction of the project was accorded at an estimated cost of Rs. 31.25 crores.

(b) As reported by State Government, the overall progress of the work upto February 1994 is 85 per cent Upto March 1994, a sum of Rs. 27,3978 crors has been released by the State Government for the project. However, the liabilities incurred upto February 1994 amount's to Rs. 29,2006 crores.

(c) The project is targetted for completion during 1994-95.

(d) A final revised estimate is contemplated and is being worked out by the State Government.

(e) The capacity of the project is 15.00 lakhs gallon per day.

Tribals below poverty line in rural areas

6340. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the estimate of the Planning Commission, 58 per cent of the tribals living in the rural areas of the country, in 1983 were below the poverty line;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of the tribals living in the rural areas of the country, who are below the poverty line, at present;

(c) the extent of special central assistance released to the States for tribal Sub Plan during the last three years, till date, with State/Union Territory-wise figures; and

(d) the total number of Scheduled Tribes who were assisted to crores the poverty line during the same period, State/Union Territory-wise figures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) According to the estimates of the Planning Commission 58.4 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes people living in the rural areas of the country were below poverty line in 1983-84.

(b) In 1987-88, the latest year for which poverty estimates are available, 51.4 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes people living in the rural areas of the country were below poverty line.

(c) State/Union Territory-wise central assistance released for tribal sub-plan during the last three years is given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix 170. Annexure No. 127].

(d) State/Union Territory-wise number of Scheduled Tribe families economically assisted to cross the poverty line during the last three years is given in Annexure-II [*See* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 127].